

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-5012

1. Name

Historic 905 – 917 Lemmon Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 905 – 917 Lemmon Street
city, town Baltimore
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name
street & number telephone
city, town state & zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state & zip code

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check One

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check One

☒ original site
☐ moved:
date of move: _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This row of seven three-story, two-bay wide early Italianate-style brick houses with shed roofs and simple, scroll-sawn bracketed cornices were built c. 1870. Some of the houses retain their original brick facades, which were always painted; others have been covered with formstone or stuccoed.

The houses are three stories in height, 12'6" wide, and occupy lots 51' deep. Each house is two rooms deep with a one-story rear kitchen addition. The houses are constructed in running bond and were originally painted. Each house has a single hooded chimney located at the rear corner of the house. The shed roofs are capped by a wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding supported by scroll-sawn modillions, set against a plain, deep frieze area.

The tall, narrow window and door openings have segmentally arched brick lintels, composed of a double row of headers, and plain tympanums. No original 2/2 sash survive and the openings are either boarded or filled with 1/1 replacement sash. The sills are wood. Doorways have a single-light transom which has been covered over. The remaining doors are modern replacements. The houses sit on low basements, lit by a single-light sash. Each house is reached by two or three concrete or brick steps.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-5012

3. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify	

Specific dates c. 1870

Builder/Architect

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This group of houses is significant in that it represents the level of architectural stylishness achieved by many builders of small street houses in the mid-nineteenth century. The houses were built according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the period c. 1870 to 1910. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and northeast and southwest of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,000 - \$1,500; small street houses for \$600 - \$800.

The houses are especially significant because of their proximity to the Baltimore & Ohio railroad yards, the nation's first railroad, and its related railroad-oriented industries, like car and rail shops. Housing of this type was built to provide inexpensive housing for the wide variety of both Irish and German immigrants who came to southwest Baltimore to work in railroad-related industries in the decades after the Civil War. The newly arrived Irish immigrants worshipped at St. Peter's Roman Catholic church nearby on Poppleton St.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-5012

9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

date

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

telephone

city, town Baltimore

state & zip code Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of property rights.

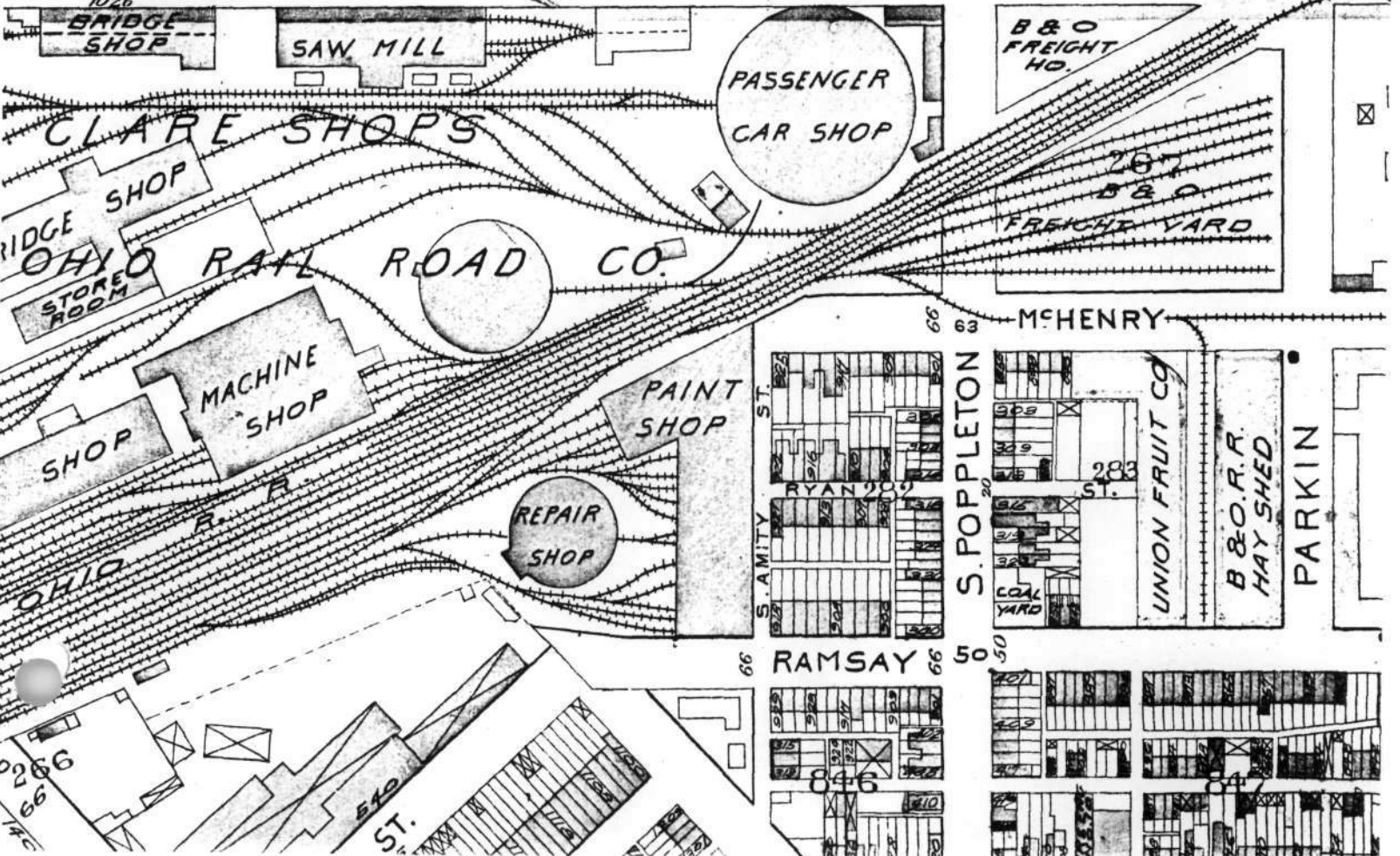
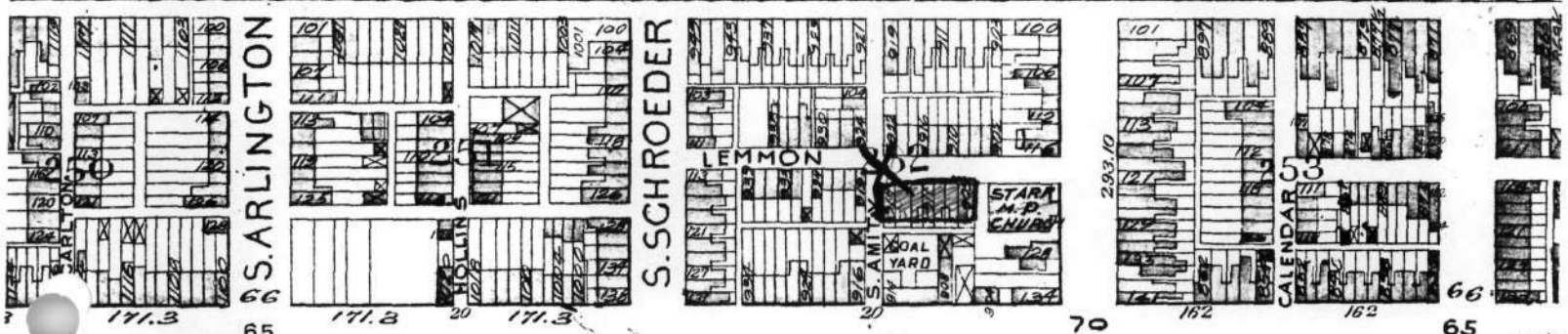
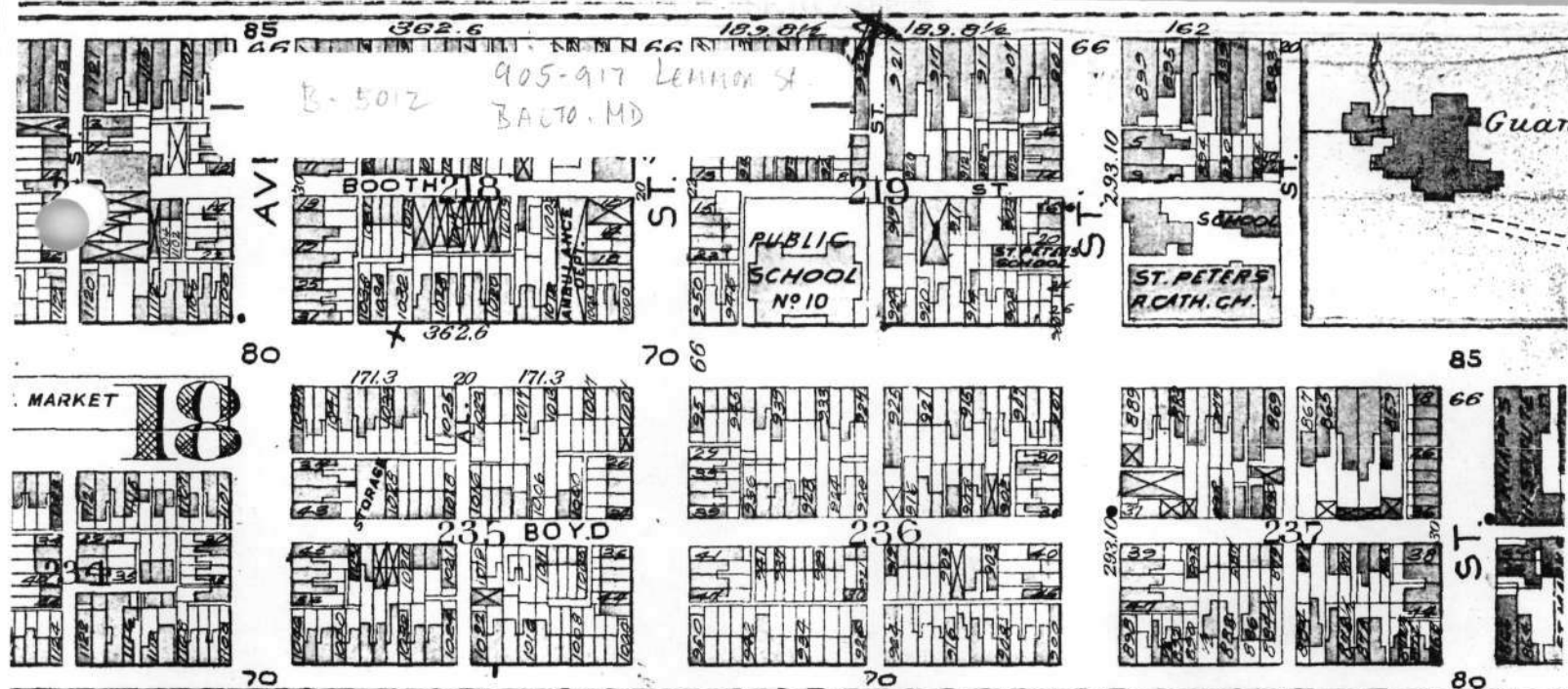
Return to:

DHCP/DHCD

Maryland Historical Trust

100 Community Place

Crownsville MD 21032-2023





905-915- Lemmon

JWB-4

B-5012

905-915 Lemmon St.

BALTO, MD

C. Beynre

3/98

MD SHPO

//

110345 0211 17 11 42

POPPLETON HISTORIC STUDY

~~B-2755~~ B-5012
MAGI # 0427555504

Block Lot Address
252 86-92 905-917 Lemmon Street

Approximate age
1800-1845 1845-1860 1865-1880 1880-1896 1896-on

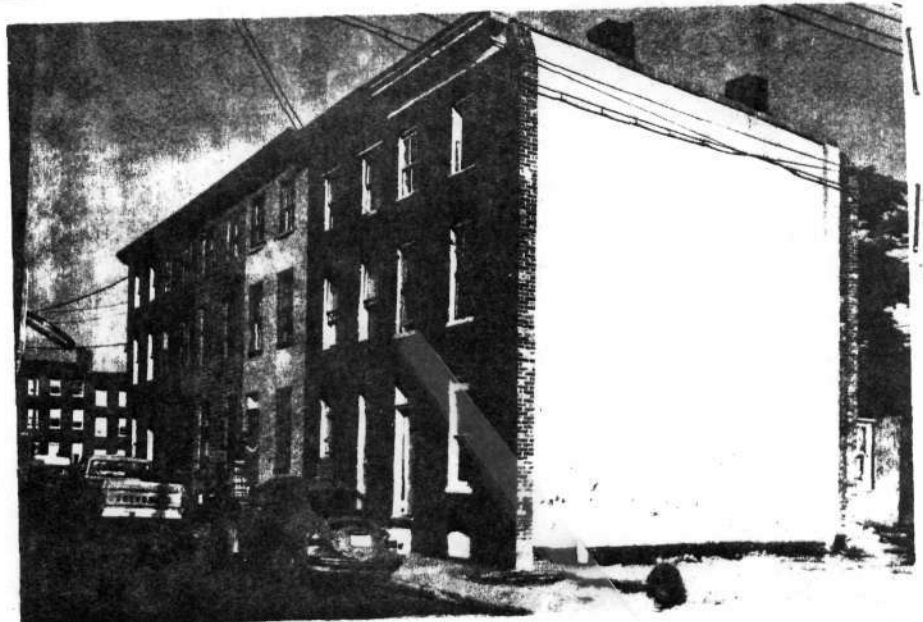
<u>Rating</u>	<u>Architectural</u>	<u>Condition</u>			
A	Significant-save	good	fair	poor	bad
B	Quality-Indiv./groups-save	good	fair	poor	bad
C	Important to street/groups	good	fair	poor	bad
D	Insignificant/detrimental	good	fair	poor	bad

Notable features:

A modest matched group in fair condition. With park behind them they will improve; could be rehabilitated. Number 909 has been formstoned and 907 has a "felt" finish.

Environmental context:

Lot (92) at 917 is vacant but there are no vacant houses.
(See comments for 928-944 Lemmon Street.)



Block 253

There are two soft spots in this block, the facade on Pratt Street which is highly visible from the Mt. Clare Museum and the interior of the block. The rest is in good condition and quite old, with a certain style. Lombard Street, though occasionally formstoned, is a good solid block. There is a good terrace opposite.

The center blocks of Callender and Lemmon Streets are seriously deteriorated. Were the fragments of Lemmon Street to be pulled down, the block as well as the Callender Street houses might be salvaged.

Constructive use of the Lemmon Street land could be parking, green and play area.

B-5012

~~B-2755~~

905-917 Lemmon Street
Block 252 Lot 086-092
Baltimore City
Baltimore West Quad.

